

Application No. 09/828,619

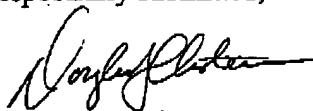
REMARKS

Claims 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 12, 13, 15, 17, and 20 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 12, 13, 20 are cancelled, and claims 15 and 17 remain. Although the Office Action indicated that claims 15 and 17 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, these claims are independent and therefore are understood to be allowable as written and no amendment has been made.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if the Examiner believes it would be useful to advance prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,



Douglas J. Christensen
Registration No. 35,480

Customer No. 24113
Patterson, Thuent, Skaar & Christensen, P.A.
4800 IDS Center
80 South 8th Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-2100
Telephone: (612) 349-3001